की रिपोर्ट और आई० एम० जी० की सिफारिशों को राष्ट्रीय आपदा राहत समिति के समक्ष रखा जायेगा।

Programmes for the development of KBK districts of Orissa

612. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have discontinued the programmes launched for the development of Kalahandi, Bolangir and Koraput (KBK) districts in Orissa;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government propose to revive the programmes in those districts; and

(d) if so, the steps taken in that direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) and (b) The Long Term Action Plan for development of the undivided districts of Koraput, Bolangir, and Kalahandi (KBK) in Orissa was launched in 1995. However, in order to focus on high priority schemes which would deal with the basic problems of these districts, the Government of Orissa was asked to prepare a revised plan. The Revised Long Term Action Plan (1998-99 to 2006-07) consists of Central plan and centrally Sponsored Schemes in various sectors, namely agriculture, horticulture, watershed development, afforestation, rural employment, irrigation, health, drinking water, rural connectivity.

Leasing of Transponders by ISRO

613. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) how many transponders are available with ISRO;

(b) how many of them are used by Government agencies;

(c) how many of them have been leased out to private agencies; and

(d) what is the annual rental charged by ISRO for leasing transponders?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) At present Eighty-nine (89) transponders are avaiable with ISRO. Out of these, sixtysix (66) are being currently used and twentythree (23) trnasponders avaiable on Indian National Satellite-1D (INSAT-1D) and INSAT-2A satellites are in an inclined orbit and hence are not used.

(b) Sixtytwo (62) transponders are used by Government Agencies.

(c) About four (4) transponders have been leased by Department of Telecommunications (DOT) to private agencies.

(d) The rental charged by DOT is between Rs. 1.65 Crores to Rs. 2.75 Crores per annum per transponders depending on the power.

Tapping of Rain Water is an additional source

614. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have ever conducted survey to assess the quantum of rain water which remains untapped;

(b) whether it is a fact that despite the country having rivers flowing throughout the year, large sections of people and cultivable land remain thirsty; and

(c) if so, what concrete measures are proposed to be taken to rectify the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) As per assessment made by Central Water Commission, the country receives annual precipitation of 4000 billion cubic metres including snowfall. Of this, the seasonal rainfall (June to September) is of the order of 3000 billion cubic metres. Out of this, the average annual flow available in rivers is around